

**California Department of Water Resources  
Oroville Facilities Relicensing  
Draft Issue Statements, Geographic Scopes and Resource Goals  
Revised May 16, 2001**

**LAND USE****Issue Statement LU1:**

What are the appropriate, compatible, and potential developmental and non-developmental uses of project lands especially for public use, public access, open space, recreational uses, watershed and natural resources protection/management, energy resources and cultural values in a way that integrates and respects: 1) resource constraints; 2) adjacent land uses; and 3) applicable plans (including the Forest Service, State, County, and City of Oroville land planning and zoning) and policies for project lands and adjacent lands?

**Issues Addressed:**

LUE1: Develop more areas for recreation

LUE2: Develop land access to far north side of lake

LUE3: Increase communication on issues relating to present DWR land usage around the lake area so it shifts from unused to recreational or appropriate public use.

LUE6: Forbid industrial use of State recreation lands

LUE7: Preservation of open/natural areas/greenbelts

LUE8: There is an interest in integrating recreation opportunities provided by the reservoir with those that could occur on adjacent national forest system lands. Uses need to be complementary with no unmitigated impact on heritage resources, and little if any impact on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat or vegetative productivity. Opportunities could include boat in camping sites, trails from the reservoir to points of scenic or other interest and improvement of existing road access to the reservoir.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC Project boundary, contiguous properties, and other lands within 1/4 mile of the project boundaries.

**Resource Goals:**

1. Compliance of the Oroville Facilities with FERC regulations and orders.
2. Use of project lands in a way that is consistent with project objectives.

3. Use of project lands with consideration for consistency with the objectives of local plans and resource agency plans for the area as a whole and for the lands in the immediate vicinity of the project area.
4. Protection of areas with valuable natural, recreational and cultural resources.
5. Development of additional land uses including visitor access and recreational facilities on existing and new sites.
6. Siting of land uses on project lands that considers[and is consistent with] sensitive resources, resource constraints, surrounding land uses, and linkages with the surrounding area's development pattern.
7. Encourage local agency to consider non-project land use impacts on project land uses, aesthetics, and environmental qualities when zoning land and considering approval development projects.

**Issue Statement LU2:**

What is the potential for acquiring or removing project lands (including other property interests) to meet resource goals?

**Issues Addressed:**

LUE4: Contact PG&E regarding property at Lime Saddle Marina, the 5 plus acres to add more parking available to public and add much needed road and entrance.

LUE5: Look at all PG&E lands adjacent to project.

LUE9: Potential for acquisition of federal lands (BLM and USFS) within project boundary by DWR.

LUE10: Potential for DWR to sell, for private development, some lands currently held by the State. This would get the lands back on tax rolls.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC Project boundary, contiguous properties, and other lands within 1/4 mile of the project boundaries.

**Resource Goals:**

1. Compliance of the Oroville Facilities with FERC regulations and orders.
2. Use of project lands and other lands in the project vicinity in a way that is consistent with project objectives.

3. Protection of lands contiguous to the project area that are strategically important for protecting valuable natural, recreational and cultural resources located within the project's current boundaries.
4. Incorporation of additional lands into the project area that are needed to provide for the development of new or expanded visitor and recreational facilities.
5. Acquisition or removal of lands including surplus lands within or nearby the project area after consideration for achievement of project operational goals, protection of resources or development of project visitor and recreational facilities and which have potential strategic importance as locations for development activities to meet community needs.

## LAND MANAGEMENT

### Issue Statement LM1:

What are the funding and staffing needs to adequately address land management for the Oroville Wildlife Area, Lake Oroville State Recreation Area (LOSRA), Thermalito Afterbay, and other project lands?

### Issues Addressed:

LME1: Evaluate existing facilities security. Lake security and fines – “user friendly”.

LME4: Are additional funds needed to augment the existing budget for the management of the Oroville Wildlife Area? Presently available Fish and Game funds are being dedicated to managing people and not wildlife habitat.

LME5: Are additional funds needed for law enforcement? Presently two-thirds of all the local game warden activities are spent on the Oroville wildlife area. An augmentation of funding for more wardens would free up time for other law enforcement activities outside of the wildlife area.

LME16: Provide an emergency boat for CDF

### Geographic Scope:

Areas included within the Oroville Wildlife Area, LOSRA, and Thermalito Afterbay.

### Resource Goals:

1. Sufficient funding for full, fair and professional enforcement of the regulations at the Wildlife Area, LOSRA, and Thermalito Afterbay, to protect resources and assure public safety.
2. Sufficient funding to assure proper clean-up and facilities maintenance

### Issue Statement LM2:

What are the existing and future fuel loads, fuel management practices, and coordination of fuel management activities for lands located within and adjacent to the project boundary to manage the risk of loss of property, lives, and natural resources?

**Issues Addressed:**

LME6: Fuel load on state lands – potential impact to habitat (wildlife and human)

LME7: There is an interest in management of national forest system lands located within and adjacent to the project area within the framework of the Forest Plan Amendment EIS. Management could include establishment of Defensible Fuel Profile Zones, prescribed burning or other activities compatible with the EIS.

LME10: Consequences on natural environment and adjacent land of fuel loading (current fire management practices)

LME14: Evaluate fuel loading in areas within the project area, including land along the Feather River below Oroville Dam through the Long Bar area and land near the Diversion Dam.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC project boundary, contiguous properties, and other lands within ¼ mile of the project boundaries.

**Resource Goals:**

1. Development of a comprehensive understanding of fuel loads and fuel load issues on project lands and lands in the vicinity of the project area sufficient to identify risks, options, and a strategy for action.
2. In an integrated effort with appropriate agencies, manage fuel loads on project lands and on lands in the surrounding area to optimize for fire safety and the achievement of other objectives.

**Issue Statement LM3:**

What is an appropriate arrangement for land management of recreation facilities of LOSRA, Thermalito Afterbay, Wildlife area and other project lands?

**Issue Addressed:**

LME8: There is an interest in reviewing the arrangement to defer recreation management to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for the purpose of determining whether to continue, modify or terminate this agreement. The arrangement if continued needs to be formally documented and updated to reflect current management direction.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the LOSRA, Thermalito Afterbay, Wildlife area, and adjacent lands,

**Resource Goals:**

1. Operation of the LOSRA, Thermalito Afterbay, and Wildlife area facilities in a way that will facilitate expansion of visitor and recreational facilities, be responsive to market demand, and provide a stimulus to further local economic development.

2. Operation of LOSRA, Thermalito Afterbay, and Wildlife area facilities in a way that is efficient, responsive to visitor needs, and oriented toward increases in visitor numbers, visitor spending, and visitor satisfaction with their experience.

**Issue Statement LM4**

What are appropriate law enforcement activities, security and penalties for project lands?

**Issues Addressed:**

LME1: Evaluate existing facilities security. Lake security and fines – “user friendly”.

LME4: Are additional funds needed to augment the existing budget for the management of the Oroville Wildlife Area? Presently available Fish and Game funds are being dedicated to managing people and not wildlife habitat.

LME5: Are additional funds needed for law enforcement? Presently two-thirds of all the local game warden activities are spent on the Oroville wildlife area. An augmentation of funding for more wardens would free up time for other law enforcement activities outside of the wildlife area.

LME 6: Fuel load on state lands – potential impact to habitat (wildlife and human)

LME15: Install warning system for water releases.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC Project boundary.

**Resource Goals:**

1. Full, fair and professional establishment, promulgation, and enforcement of regulations to protect project facilities and resources and assure public safety.

**AESTHETICS****Issue Statement A1:**

What are the effects of reservoir drawdown on the visual quality at Lake Oroville and other project lands?

**Issues Addressed:**

AE6: Lake levels sink too low in the summer – ‘bathtub ring’

AE16: Re-seed face of Oroville Dam and perimeter of reservoir exposed during drawdown.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC Project boundary.

**Resource Goals:**

1. Develop and implement a program targeted to improve (to the extent feasible within the project purposes and operational, legal, and environmental constraints) the appearance of the areas that are negatively affected by the reservoir drawdown.

#### **Issue Statement A2:**

What are the effects of construction debris, garbage, and invasive species on the appearance of project lands?

#### **Issues Addressed:**

AE1: Need to establish debris collection program on regular schedule

AE2: Remove old railroad trestle and other debris from river.

AE3: Clean up shoreline, particularly adjacent to camping and public access areas. Use county prisoner-release programs, if necessary, to maintain clean shorelines.

AE4: Remove concrete and construction debris in Feather River including below the Fish Barrier dam, below the Table Mountain Bridge, below the Hwy 70 Bridge.

AE5: Dump areas used by DWR need to be removed.

AE15: Create work team to remove invasive, non-native plants (List A and B) from SWP and DWR areas.

#### **Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC Project boundary.

#### **Resource Goals:**

1. Develop and implement a program to clean up areas where there is litter and trash and to take appropriate actions that will help to minimize littering and illegal trash disposal in the future.
2. Develop a highly targeted program to remove or screen construction debris in visually sensitive areas where it substantially detracts from the aesthetic quality of the environment and the experience of visitors.

#### **Issue Statement A3:**

What are the appropriate landscaping, restoration, preservation, vegetation and facilities management/maintenance programs for aesthetic enhancement of project lands?

#### **Issues Addressed:**

AE10: Consider potential projects that could affect aesthetic nature of the project.

AE11: Day use park: water lines in the south side of the river between the Fish Barrier Dam and the Diversion Dam need to be installed to irrigate plantings

AE12: Native plant landscaping (potential sites: Feather River fish Hatchery, State Parks Headquarters, DWR Field Office, Spillway Launch Facility - future) and restoration of native plant communities.

AE13: Replace landscaping at the Feather River Fish Hatchery and adjacent river areas.

AE14: Clean up old 'City' park adjacent to the north side of the Fish Barrier Dam, just north of the Fish Hatchery. Taken over by DWR when SWP was constructed, never re-opened. Provide picnic areas and restroom facilities. Turn over to City of Oroville.

AE16: Re-seed face of Oroville Dam and perimeter of reservoir exposed during drawdown.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC Project boundary.

**Resource Goals:**

1. Develop and implement a program to preserve and restore existing vegetation and landscaping and to manage and maintain facilities to assure a high level of visual attractiveness on project lands.

**Issue Statement A4:**

What are the effects of existing and future project features (including transmission lines, trails, etc) and land uses on the aesthetic quality of project lands?

**Issues Addressed:**

AE7: Camouflage the powerline towers

AE8: Improve poorly maintained visitor center

AE9: Expand use of "low impact" signs

AE10: Consider potential projects that could affect aesthetic nature of the project.

AE16: Re-seed face of Oroville Dam and perimeter of reservoir exposed during drawdown.

**Geographic Scope:**

Area within the Oroville Facilities FERC Project boundary.

**Resource Goals:**

1. Develop and implement a program to identify any existing project features that have significant adverse visual effects and consider proposals for strategic actions to modify or mitigate those impacts.
2. Establish design standards and a visual impact evaluation protocol to assure that changes to existing project facilities and any new facilities on project lands are sited and designed in a way that protects and enhances the project area's aesthetic qualities.

3. Establish a visual impact evaluation protocol and mitigation procedures to assure that any changes in land use or management activities are compatible with surrounding uses and protect and enhance the project area's aesthetic qualities.



**LAND USE, LAND MANAGEMENT, AND AESTHETICS ISSUES**  
**Draft Issues List, Revised May 16, 2001**

MAY 8 LIST		CONSOLIDATED ISSUES LIST	
LU E1	Develop more areas for recreation	L U 1	What are the appropriate, compatible, and potential developmental and non-developmental uses of project lands especially for public use, public access, open space, recreational uses, watershed and natural resources protection/management, energy resources and cultural values in a way that integrates and respects: 1) resource constraints; 2) adjacent land uses; and 3) applicable plans (including the Forest Service, State, County, and City of Oroville land planning and zoning) and policies for project lands and adjacent lands?
LU E2	Develop land access to far north side of lake		See LU1
LU E3	Increase communication on issues relating to present DWR land usage around the lake area so it shifts from unused to recreational or appropriate public use.		See LU1
LU E4	Contact PG&E regarding property at Lime Saddle Marina, the 5 plus acres to add more parking available to public and add much needed road and entrance.	L U 2	What is the potential for acquiring or removing project lands (including other property interests) to meet resource goals?
LU E5	Look at all PG&E lands adjacent to project.		See LU2
LU E6	Forbid industrial use of State recreation lands		See LU1
LU E7	Preservation of open/natural areas/greenbelts		See LU1
LU E8	There is an interest in integrating recreation opportunities provided by the reservoir with those that could occur on adjacent national forest system lands. Uses need to be complementary with no unmitigated impact on heritage resources, and little if any impact on aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat or vegetative productivity. Opportunities could include boat in camping sites, trails from the reservoir to points of scenic or other interest and improvement of		See LU1

	existing road access to the reservoir.		
LU E9	Potential for acquisition of federal lands (BLM and USFS) within project boundary by DWR.		See LU2
LU E10	Potential for DWR to sell, for private development, some lands currently held by the State. This would get the lands back on County tax rolls.		See LU2
LM E1	Evaluate existing facilities security. Lake security and fines – “user friendly”.	L M 1	What are the funding and staffing needs to adequately address land management for the Oroville Wildlife Area, Lake Oroville State Recreation Area (LOSRA), Thermalito Afterbay, and other project lands? Also, see LM4
LM E2	Evaluate unpaved status of RR grade multi-use trail		See LU1
LM E3	Immediate access by public vehicles at Lakeland Boulevard to the old railroad grade area of the diversion pool with future consideration of improvements in that same area.		See LU1
LM E4	Are additional funds needed to augment the existing budget for the management of the Oroville Wildlife Area? Presently available Fish and Game funds are being dedicated to managing people and not wildlife habitat.	L M 4	What are appropriate law enforcement activities, security and penalties for project lands? Also, see LM1
LM E5	Are additional funds needed for law enforcement? Presently two-thirds of all the local game warden activities are spent on the Oroville wildlife area. An augmentation of funding for more wardens would free up time for other law enforcement activities outside of the wildlife area.		See LM1, LM4
LM E6	Fuel load on state lands – potential impact to habitat (wildlife and human)		See LM1, LM2
LM E7	There is an interest in management of national forest system lands located within and adjacent to the project area within the framework of the Forest Plan Amendment EIS. Management could include establishment of Defensible Fuel Profile Zones, prescribed burning or other activities compatible with the EIS.	L M 2	What are the existing and future fuel loads, fuel management practices, and coordination of fuel management activities for lands located within and adjacent to the project boundary to manage the risk of loss of property, lives, and natural resources? Also, see LU1, T11.
LM	There is an interest in reviewing the	L	What is an appropriate arrangement for

E8	arrangement to defer recreation management to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for the purpose of determining whether to continue, modify or terminate this agreement. The arrangement if continued needs to be formally documented and updated to reflect current management direction.	M 3	land management of recreation facilities of LOSRA, Thermalito Afterbay, Wildlife area and other project lands?
LM E9	Commercial cattle grazing: return to project and impact to natural environment		See LU1
LM E10	Consequences on natural environment and adjacent land of fuel loading (current fire management practices)		See LM2, T11
LM E11	Comply with the Executive Orders 111988, Floodplain Management, and 11990, Protection of Wetlands		See LU1, T5
LM E12	Use site specific, integrated pest management approach to control forest pests, employing mechanical, cultural, biological, and/or chemical methods based on effectiveness, cost-efficiency, and protection of human health and environmental quality		See A3, T7, T8
LM E13	Water releases from Oroville Dam and downstream impacts (vegetation and properties)		See G1, G2, T3, T5
LM E14	Evaluate fuel loading in areas within the project area, including land along the Feather River below Oroville Dam through the Long Bar area and land near the Diversion Dam.		See LM2, T11
LM E15	Install warning system for water releases.		See LM4
LM E16	Provide an emergency boat for CDF		See LM1, LM4
AE 1	Need to establish debris collection program on regular schedule	A 2	What are the effects of construction debris, garbage, and invasive species on the appearance of project lands?
AE 2	Remove old railroad trestle and other debris from river.		See A2
AE 3	Clean up shoreline, particularly adjacent to camping and public access areas. Use county prisoner-release programs, if necessary, to maintain clean shorelines.		See A2
AE	Remove concrete and construction		See A2

4	debris in Feather River including below the Fish Barrier dam, below the Table Mountain Bridge, below the Hwy 70 Bridge.		
AE 5	Dump areas used by DWR need to be removed.		See A2
AE 6	Lake levels sink too low in the summer – ‘bathtub ring’	A 1	What are the effects of reservoir drawdown on the visual quality at Lake Oroville and other project lands?
AE 7	Camouflage the powerline towers	A 4	What are the effects of existing and future project features (including transmission lines, trails, etc) and land uses on the aesthetic quality of project lands? Also see A3
AE 8	Improve poorly maintained visitor center		See A3, A4
AE 9	Expand use of “low impact” signs		See A3, A4
AE 10	Consider potential projects that could affect aesthetic nature of the project.	A 3	What are the appropriate landscaping, restoration, preservation, vegetation and facilities management/maintenance programs for aesthetic enhancement of project lands? Also see A4
AE 11	Day use park: water lines in the south side of the river between the Fish Barrier Dam and the Diversion Dam need to be installed to irrigate plantings		See A3
AE 12	Native plant landscaping (potential sites: Feather River fish Hatchery, State Parks Headquarters, DWR Field Office, Spillway Launch Facility - future) and restoration of native plant communities.		See A3
AE 13	Replace landscaping at the Feather River Fish Hatchery and adjacent river areas.		See A3
AE 14	Clean up old ‘City’ park adjacent to the north side of the Fish Barrier Dam, just north of the Fish Hatchery. Taken over by DWR when SWP was constructed, never re-opened. Provide picnic areas and restroom facilities. Turn over to City of Oroville.		See A3
AE 15	Create work team to remove invasive, non-native plants (List A and B) from SWP and DWR areas.		See A2
AE 16	Re-seed face of Oroville Dam and perimeter of reservoir exposed during drawdown.		See A1, A3, A4